

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

HARMONY

**BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,**

HELD WITH

**Siloam Meeting House, Bibb County, Alabama,**

*From the 7th to the 9th of October, 1882.*

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FROM THE

WILLIAM T. BAKER

OF THE

# MINUTES

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7th, 1882.

1. The Delegates from the Churches composing the Sixth Annual Session of the Harmony Baptist Association convened with the Siloam Church on this day, at 11 o'clock. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder G. R. Fuller, from Matthew 4th chapter and portion of the 19th verse: "Follow me." The assembly then adjourned one hour for dinner.

2. At 2 o'clock P. M., the Delegates assembled in the meeting house, and the Association was called to order by the former Moderator, Elder S. V. McGinnis. A hymn was sung, and prayer was offered by Elder N. H. Williams.

3. The roll of the Churches was called. The Delegates brought forward the letters from their various Churches, and voted for Moderator. Elder S. V. McGinnis was re-elected Moderator. (The roll of the Delegate's names will appear in the tabular statement at the end of these Minutes.)

4. The Moderator proceeded to take up the business as follows, and appointed the following committees:

PREACHING—M. J. Parsons, John Ray, Lewis Causey and the Deacons of this Church.

NOMINATIONS—J. W. Matthews, Richmond Riley, John N. Hayes, M. W. Perry.

DOCUMENTS—Elders N. H. Williams, G. R. Fuller, Brethren F. M. Arnold, D. H. Lewis.

TEMPERANCE—Elders N. H. Williams, G. R. Fuller, R. H. Blake.

FINANCE—E. M. Williams, James McElroy, B. A. Thrasher.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—J. E. Colbert, J. J. Little, N. D. Vernon.

HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS—A. C. Johnson, R. H. Blake  
J. W. Smith.

5. Received Correspondence as follows:

MULBERRY—Elder W. G. Hubbard with letter and Minutes.

TUSCALOOSA—Elders J. T. Yerby, W. J. Herrin, and Breth-

ren William Dyer, W. F. Goodson, J. H. Ward, with letter and minutes.

SHELBY—Marshal Pratt.

6.—Returned Correspondence as follows:

CANAAN—J. J. Little, R. H. Blake, M. J. Parsons.

MULBERRY—Elders N. H. Williams, C. R. Fuller, and Brethren J. J. Little, F. M. Arnold, James McElroy, A. C. Johnson.

MUD CREEK—Elder G. R. Fuller, M. J. Parsons, M. T. Parsons, H. B. Norwood.

SHELBY—A. C. Johnson, James McElroy.

TUSCALOOSA—Elders N. H. Williams, G. R. Fuller, and Brethren Richmond Riley, J. W. Mathews, D. H. Lewis.

7. Opened the door for the reception of Churches. The Delegates from Mt. Carmel Church came forward and returned their letter back to the Harmony Association, which was, by motion, received, the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship to the Delegates.

8. The Committee on Preaching reported: Preaching to-night at candle-light, by Elder W. J. Herrin. Prayer Meeting to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock, conducted by D. H. Lewis. Preaching at 11 o'clock, by Elder N. H. Williams. After a short intermission, preaching by Elder W. J. Hubbard.

The Association then adjourned until 9 o'clock Monday morning. Prayer by Brother W. F. Goodson. Elder W. J. Herrin filled the appointment at candle-light, from the 6th chapter of 1 Corinthians, a portion of the 19 and 20 verses.

#### SABBATH, OCTOBER 8th, 1882.

9. The appointments announced by the Committee on Preaching were attended to as follows:

Elder J. T. Yerby preached a Missionary Sermon at 11 o'clock, from Acts 16th chapter, a part of the 9th verse; after which a collection was taken up for Missions, which amounted to eight dollars and fifty-five cents. After a short intermission, preaching by Elder W. G. Hubbard, from Matthew 6th chapter, and 20th verse. Preaching at candle-

light by Elder S. V. McGinnis, from St. John the 10th chapter, 3, 4, 5 verses.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9th, 1882. •

10. According to adjournment the Association met and was opened with prayer by Elder W. J. Herrin.

11. The Association called for the reading of the Constitution, which was read.

12. The Committee on Nominations reported :

We recommend that the next Session of this Association be held with the Mt. Olive Church, Tuscaloosa county, Alabama, on Saturday before the second Sabbath in October, 1883, Elder S. V. McGinnis to preach the Introductory Sermon ; Elder N. H. Williams Alternate. Elder G. R. Fuller to preach at 11 o'clock on Sunday.

J. W. MATTHEWS, Chairman.

13. The Committee on Documents reported :

We find nothing from the Documents before us claiming our attention. We recommend, therefore, the reading of the Word of God. We also recommend that the Alabama Baptist be read by our people generally.

G. R. FULLER, Chairman.

14. The Committee on Home and Foreign Missions reported :

That the Churches support the Foreign Missions, as far as they are able, and as there is great destitution in our bounds, we again earnestly recommend that our Association help to more fully consecrate their ministers to the work by cutting them loose, as much as they are able, from secular labor, and let them wait continually upon the work of the Lord. And we further recommend that some one of our ministers be sent out in the bounds of our Association to preach to the destitute portion of people in our bounds. We also recommend that we appoint an executive committee to meet at a certain time and place, to employ a minister to travel in the destitute places in our bounds, and to urge their churches to throw in all they can to support the minister that is chosen. The committee appointed is as follows: J. W. Mathews, R. H. Blake, F. M. Arnold, D. H. Lewis, M. J. Parsons, B. A. Thrasher—to meet at Cedar Grove Church, on Saturday before the third Sabbath in February, 1883.

R. A. BLAKE, Chairman.

15. By motion, the Association adjourned one hour dinner. Prayer by Elder J. T. Yerby.

16. At 1 o'clock P. M., according to adjournment Association met and was opened with prayer by H. Blake.



17. The Committee on Sunday Schools reported:

That we find but two churches that report Sabbath Schools. We recommend that our pastors urge the churches to organize a Sabbath School in each church.

E. M. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

18. The Committee on Temperance reported:

We regard the drinking of intoxicating liquors as a beverage a very great sin. We therefore recommend the members of the various churches to abstain from the practice of using intoxicating spirits as a beverage, and that our ministers use their influence against the use of intoxicating liquors.

G. R. FULLER, Chairman.

19. The Committee on Finance reported: Amount received for Minutes, \$9.75; Associational purposes, \$3; collection on Sunday for Missions, \$8.55.

B. A. THRASHER, Chairman.

20. By motion, the Association instructed the Treasurer to forward the missionary funds to T. M. Bailey, Marion, Ala., Secretary of the State Mission Board.

21. Report of the First District—The Union Meeting of the First District will be held with Hephzibah Church, commencing on Friday before the second Sabbath in September, 1883. Elder S. V. McGinnis to preach the Introductory Sermon, Elder G. R. Fuller alternate. Queries for discussion: For Friday afternoon—"Is it right for churches to call for absentees?" opened by Bro. J. J. Little. For Saturday—"What would be the best means to build up the church?" opened by Bro. J. W. Mathews. Saturday afternoon: "Was there any organized Baptist Church in the Apostolic day?" opened by Eld. S. V. McGinnis.

22. Resolved, That we hereby tender our thanks to the brethren and sisters of this Church and vicinity for the liberal and hospitable manner in which they entertained this body during its present session.

23. After prayer by Elder N. H. Williams, a hymn was sung, and the delegates gave the parting hand, and the Association adjourned, to meet with Mt. Olive Church, Tuscaloosa county, Ala., three miles south of Coaling Station, on Saturday before the second Sabbath in October, 1883.

JAMES N. HAYES,

Stated Clerk.

S. V. MCGINNIS,

Moderator.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

TO ALL SISTER BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS WITH WHOM WE MAY CORRESPOND

DEAR BRETHREN—We have just closed our Sixth Annual Session of Harmony Baptist Association. For the advancement of our Redeemed Kingdom, and for the promotion of His cause here on earth, we send with this letter, by hand of our appointed Delegates, cordial greetings with you. Our Sixth Session was one of harmony, love and we ask an interest in your prayers. May the Great Church preside over your and our Associations, and lead us in the ways of truth, is our prayer.

Our next Session will be held with Mt. Olive Church, on Saturday and Sabbath in October, 1883—Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.

JAMES N. HAYES, Clerk.

S. V. MCGINNIS, Moderator.



